Donald K. McLarty To Be Named First Architect of the Capitol

Springfield - Donald K. McLarty, AIA, a 23-year veteran of historic building renovations, has been named Illinois' first Architect of the Capitol, by the Joint Committee on Legislative Support Services.

McLarty, of Richmond VA, is currently completing work on the \$80 million renovation of the historic Virginia State Capitol in Richmond Virginia. He will assume the position of Architect of the Capitol on Oct. 1.

House Republican Leader Tom Cross, who chairs the Joint Committee, said. "We were extremely pleased with the caliber of candidates who applied for the position during our extensive search. Don McLarty's capitol renovation and other historic preservation experience make him ideally suited. We were fortunate to attract McLarty to Illinois for this significant position."

In addition to his work in Richmond, McLarty has served as the senior project manager for design of major improvements for the Lodge at Yosemite Falls and construction manager for the renovation of the 1913 Federal Courthouse in San Diego, California, a project that won a design award from the General Services Administration for best historic renovation in 1994.

"Illinois has an outstanding capitol complex. I am honored by the appointment and I look forward to working to preserve and enhance these facilities," McLarty said.

He has also worked on a wide range of major commercial projects across the country for government agencies, the U.S. military and private corporations. He is member of the American Institute of Architects and Construction Management Association of America.

McLarty has a bachelor of architecture studies from Texas Tech University, a master of business administration from the University of the Redlands in California and has studied historic preservation at Goucher College in Baltimore.

The Office of the Architect of the Capitol (formerly the Legislative Space Needs Commission) reviews and approves all contracts for the repair, rehabilitation, construction, renovation or alteration of all state buildings in the Capitol Complex. It is responsible for developing and implementing a long-range master plan of development for the Capitol Complex, has the authority to allocate space within the complex for the use of the General Assembly and its related agencies, and to acquire land for the operation or expansion of state facilities within the complex.

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